

LANCELOT

Eleventh ed., Vol. XVI, 151-2

Welsh tradition does not know him; early Italian records, which have preserved the names of Arthur and Gawain, have no reference to Lancelot; among the group of Arthurian knights figured on the architrave of the north doorway of Modena cathedral (a work of the 12th cent.) he finds no place; the real cause for his apparently sudden and triumphant rise to popularity is extremely difficult to determine. Probable solution: That which regards Lancelot as the hero of an independent and widely diffused folk-tale, which, owing to certain special circumstances, was brought into contact with, and incorporated in, the Arthurian tradition.

The Lancelot story in its rise and development belongs exclusively to the later stage of Arthurian romance; it was a story for the court, not for the folk, and it lacks alike the dramatic force and human appeal of the genuine "popular" tale.

1956, ed., Vol. XIII, 644-5

Similar to 11th ed. but shorter

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Eleventh ed., Vol. I, 550-52

Many versions which are all derived, mediately or immediately, from the Greek original which circulated under the false name of Callisthenes. The Greek pseudo-Callisthenes we possess in 3 recensions, based all upon a book produced in Egypt in the 2nd cent. A.D. This book itself was a farrago of heterogeneous elements - pieces of history, literary forgeries, etc. As the story was reproduced, variations were freely introduced according to the bent of the times and people

Some discussion of French and English versions. Latin, Ethiopic

1956 ed., Vol. I, 571-2

Little change.

Amadis De Gaula

Eleventh ed., Vol. I, 777

Much of the text derives from the Fr. romances of the Round Table. But the evidence does not enable us to say (1) whether it was pieced together from various French romances; (2) whether it was more or less literally translated from a lost French original; or (3) whether the first Peninsular adapter or translator was a Castilian or a Portuguese. On these points judgment must be suspended.

1956, ed., Vol. I, 723

Little change.